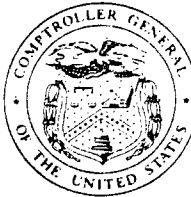


*Martin-Rolaky*

- 19797

**DECISION**



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED STATES**  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20548

FILE: B-205006

DATE: October 19, 1981

MATTER OF: Apocalypse, Inc.

**DIGEST:**

A protest which questions alleged improprieties which are apparent on the face of the solicitation is not timely when received by GAO after the date for bid opening.

Apocalypse, Inc. protests various provisions of the General Services Administration's solicitation No. IFB-PBS-9PPB-81-0139 for security services. In particular, Apocalypse maintains that several provisions of the solicitation are ambiguous and misleading and that it was improper for the agency to provide only 20 days for preparation and submission of bids. Apocalypse also maintains that the solicitation's requirement for a bid bond is specifically intended to prevent Apocalypse from participating in this procurement.

The protest is untimely. Protests based upon alleged improprieties which are apparent on the face of the solicitation must be filed (received) in the General Accounting Office prior to the bid opening date. 4 C.F.R. § 21.1(b)(1) (1981). According to the protester, September 24, 1981 was the bid opening date. However, we note that the protest is postmarked September 24, 1981; we did not receive it until October 1, 1981.

The protest is dismissed.

*Harry R. Van Cleve*  
Harry R. Van Cleve  
Acting General Counsel

*018952*

**116668**